

# Unit 11

# Conversation 1

## Could you lend me \$20?



Do friends sometimes borrow things from you?  
What kind of things?

### CONSIDER THIS

Proverbs about borrowing



"Borrowed clothes never fit well."  
"When you borrow, you are not free."

"Lenders have better memories than borrowers."

- Do you borrow things?
- What do you borrow?
- What do people borrow from you?

Class CD 2, Track 44

Ben: Hi, Wade. How are things?  
Wade: Pretty good, thanks. How are you?  
Ben: I'm fine. By the way, can I borrow your digital camera tonight? I have to take some photos for my class project.  
Wade: Sure. No problem.  
Ben: Thanks a lot.  
Wade: You're welcome.  
Ben: Oh, one more thing. Could you lend me \$20 until the weekend? I'm broke.  
Wade: Sorry, I can't. I'm broke, too!

Student CD, Track 22

## GIVE IT A TRY

### 1. Asking to borrow things

#### Informally

Can I borrow your **camera?**  
pen?

Sure. No problem.  
All right.

Can you lend me your **camera?**  
pen?

OK.

#### More formally

Could you lend me \$20?

Yes, of course.

Would you be able to lend me \$20?

Could I borrow your pen?

Do you think I could borrow your book?

#### PRACTICE 1

Class CD 2  
Track 45

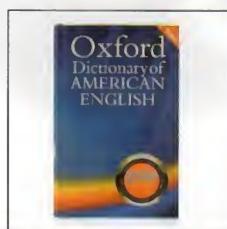
Listen to the example. Take turns requesting the things below. Your partner accepts the requests.

A: Can I borrow your...?

B: Can you lend me your...?



digital camera



dictionary



laptop



cell phone



bicycle



DVD player



calculator



binoculars

#### PRACTICE 2

Class CD 2  
Track 46

Think of three more things you want to borrow from classmates and write them below. Listen to the example. Then ask classmates if you can borrow them or if they will lend them to you. This time ask more formally.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Declining requests and giving a reason

Can I borrow your pen?

Sorry, but I'm using it.

Can you lend me \$10?

Oh, sorry. I can't. I'm broke!

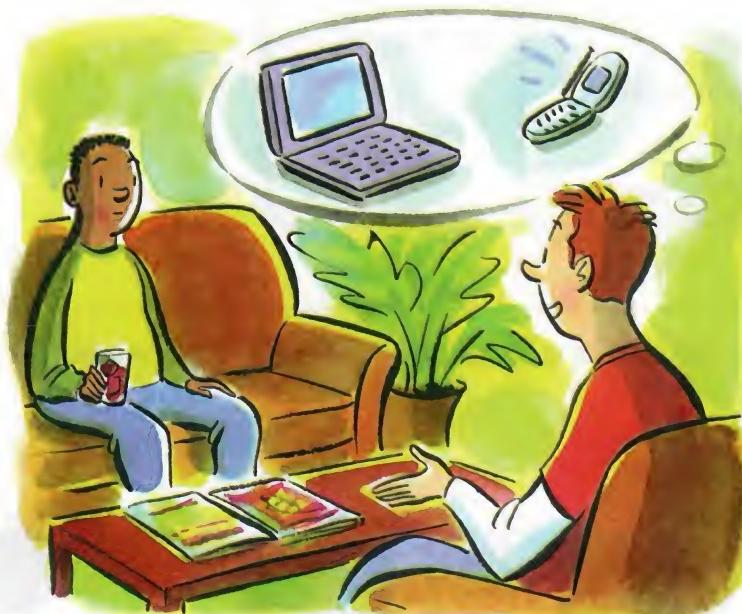
Do you think I could borrow your laptop?

Sorry, I'm using it (right now).

### PRACTICE 1

Class CD 2  
Track 47

Listen to the example. Practice making the requests below. Your partner declines and gives a reason. Reverse roles.



### Use These Words

didn't bring it today  
need it myself  
using it  
have a lot of bills to pay  
it's not working

1. borrow your car for the weekend
2. lend me \$100 until the end of the month
3. let me use your laptop tonight
4. borrow your cell phone
5. use your calculator

### PRACTICE 2

Class CD 2  
Track 48

Listen to the example. Think of three more requests and write them below. Then practice making your requests. Your classmates decline and give reasons. Reverse roles.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## LISTEN TO THIS

Class CD 2  
Track 49

**Part 1** Listen to people making requests. What do they want to borrow? Number the items in the chart from 1–6.

	Accept	Refuse		Accept	Refuse
					
					
					

**Part 2** Listen again. Does each person accept the request or refuse it? Check (✓) the correct column.

**Part 3** Talk with a partner. Would you feel comfortable asking a classmate for these things? How about a family member?

## LET'S TALK

**Part 1** Read the questions below and answer them with a partner.

1. *What kinds of things do you sometimes borrow from these people?*  
a) your parents b) your brothers or sisters c) your friends

2. *Would you ever lend these things to friends?*  
a) money b) your laptop c) clothes d) books or magazines

3. *Have you borrowed anything from your friends recently?*

4. *What are some things you would never lend a friend?*

**Part 2** Your partner will ask to borrow these things. Think of a reason to say no to each request. Reverse roles.

1. your bicycle
2. your new jacket
3. your DVD player